

REMARKS

The Office Action of July 14, 2006 has been carefully reviewed.

Claim Objections

Claims 1 and 12 have been amended as proposed by the Examiner.

Claims Rejections 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1 and 12 have also been amended to indicate that the bootstrap program selects between different external memory setup data in order to communicate with different types of external memory. An alternative formulation of amended claim 1 is provided in new claims 24.

Fullam, as noted by the Examiner, does read a parameter memory 54 for memory set up data, but the parameter memory provides only a single universal setup configuration that will “work with any type of memory device.” The system of Fullam can be distinguished from the currently amended claim both because (1) Fullam does not select between different types of memory but always assumes a universal memory standard and because (2) there is no indication in Fullam that the bootstrap memory of Fullam uses the parameter memory 54 for “temporary storage” as is required by the claim. The parameter memory in Fullam appears to be a read-only memory that would not be suitable for temporary storage of data.

Claim Rejections 35 U.S.C. §103

The present invention provides an embedded processor that can run a bootstrap program to determine the type of external memory to which it is connected even it has access to storage space in that external memory. It does so by exploiting incidental system storage structures such as caches and registers to fill the roll of external memory until the external memory has been properly identified.

Fullam limits the embedded processor to only communicating with memory types that

have a common default mode. Fullam teaches away from the present invention by requiring communication with the external memory before identification of the external memory type is determined.

Kao also requires a communication with external memory for the execution of the bootstrap program, teaching away from using the bootstrap program before connection to the external memory to determine how to connect to the external memory.

Neither Fullam nor Kao recognize or suggest that there is sufficient memory-like structure in the embedded processor that may be used to temporarily serve as random access memory until a connection to external memory is configured. Thus, it is believe that there is fairly no teaching suggestion in either of these references for any modification or combination of these references that would produce the present invention.

In light of these remarks and comments, it is believed that claims 1-24 as currently amended are no in condition for allowance and allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

JOSEPH FRANCIS MANN, et al

By 

Keith M. Baxter
Reg. No. 31,233
Attorney for Applicant
Boyle Fredrickson Newholm
Stein & Gratz, S.C.
250 E. Wisconsin Avenue, #1030
Milwaukee WI 53202
(414) 225-9755